

Parks, Libraries & Cultural Assets Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 18, 2008

4:04 p.m.

Third Floor, City Hall

Present: **Chair:** **CM Engel**
 Vice Chair: **CW Welch**
 Members: **CM Stuckel & CM Henderson**

Absent: **CW Ward-Pugh**

Chairman Engel began the meeting by introducing the members of the committee that were present.
A quorum was established.

Special Items For Discussion

- 1- Mike Heitz, Director; Jerry Brown, Assistant Director; and Lisa Hite, Senior Planner, of the Louisville Metro Parks Dept. - Update on the Metro Parks' Master Plans

CM Engel mentioned the various past discussions of Parks Items and Issues and introduced the guests for discussion.

An information handout was given to the committee in part of the discussion.

Park Master Plans as of August 2008 (attached)

Also for informational purposes, the following website was mentioned www.metro-parks.org

Mike Heitz, Director of Metro Parks, gave an overview by PowerPoint presentation on Master Planning Efforts. He stated the Master Plan gives a framework for future park usage. The following were highlights of the overview:

- Plans are flexible
- Allows citizens, neighbors & parks users to participate in defining priorities for a Park
- Guided by budget each year
- Being responsive to park users
- Ensure sensitivity to natural and cultural resources
 - Endangered plants
 - Indian burial grounds
- Master Plans address several needs:
 - Location, size of recreational amenities
 - Playgrounds
 - Athletic fields
 - Walking paths & trails
 - Traffic, parking & circulation – cyclists & pedestrians
 - Lighting – security & recreational
 - Protection and enhancement of scenic views
- Plans set forth goals in the Parks and Open Space Master Plan
 - Part of the Cornerstone 2020 Vision
- Completed Master Plans - Wyandotte, Emerson & Central Parks
 - Each completed plan includes a printed report that offers a detailed spending & phasing plan
- Park Master Plans – 37 are in implementation status and 13 plans underway or proposed
- Planning efforts for pathways as part of the City of Parks Initiatives
- Aquatic Master Plan - Completion 2008 using indoor and outdoor facilities
- Facility Inventory Database
- Recreation Plan
- Natural Resource Management Plan
- Expand environmental awareness

The committee discussed the following:

- Designing of parks according to the usage
- Balancing the designs and usage
- Swimming pools- an outstanding issue for the year of 2008 in relation to an aquatics master plan - vision, future, seek funds
- Discussion on the handout - completion vs. cost to implement
- Building improvements in Phases
- 3 current non-profits set up to utilize project funding
- Traffic Study in Seneca Park, not including recreational users
- Jefferson Memorial Forest
 - Equestrian concerns
 - Working with firms and steering committee towards end of Aug 08
 - Looking at trails, facilities, programs, environmental needs
- Need for more natural settings towards the outer layers of Southwest Jefferson County
- Can not rely on tax dollars, really need outside funding assistance for all projects
- Charlie Vettiner (used to be Chenoweth Park) updates to the Clubhouse
- ATV's usage in park - future for parks, is an issue, looking into it but no certain locations pinpointed

The committee congratulated Mike Heitz on his 5 year anniversary returning to Metro Parks.

Motion to Adjourn made by Glen Stuckel and seconded by Robert Henderson

Without objection, the meeting adjourned at 4:47PM

KLP